

D. The Negro in Industry

Throughout its history, the Communist Party, USA, has placed particular emphasis on the importance of gaining the support of Negroes employed in basic industries. At the present time, the Party attaches the utmost significance to the merger of the AFL-CIO which took place on December 5, 1955. As far as the Negro problem is concerned, the Party claims that:

"The historic significance of the merger convention's position on the Negro question lies in the fact that it registered a major defeat for the racist policy of Gompersism; at the same time it registered a fundamental and basic victory for the policy of Negro-white unity, of advancing and strengthening the Negro-labor alliance, of a single trade-union center of all working people, white and Negro alike.

"Its significance is to be found in that after a century of bitter struggle, the decisive national center of organized labor is committed formally and officially to a line of Negro-white unity, to a line of equal rights for the Negro workers in industry as well as in the labor movement."\*10

In this connection, the Party is referring specifically to the action of the convention regarding:

"... The resolution on civil rights, the speech by Thurgood Marshall, special counsel for the NAACP, \*\* the speech of Carey on the civil rights resolution, the added statement in the speech

\*Entire quotation italicized in original.

\*\*National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

